

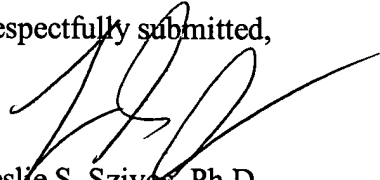
**REMARKS**

Favorable consideration and allowance of the claims of the present application, as presently filed, are respectfully requested.

In this preliminary amendment, applicants have canceled original Claims 20-33 herein since those claims are the subject matter of parent application U.S. Serial No. 10/249,295 filed March 28, 2003 and have amended the specifications to include information regarding the parent application.

Wherefore, consideration and allowance of the claims of the present application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Leslie S. Szivos, Ph.D.  
Registration No. 39,394

SCULLY, SCOTT, MURPHY & PRESSER  
400 Garden City Plaza  
Garden City, New York 11530  
(516) 742-4343

LSS:HAH:kc